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CHICO MAN RECEIVES EIGHT YEARS ON FIREARMS CONVICTION

SACRAMENTO - United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced that United States District Judge William B. Shubb sentenced defendant TOBIAS CHRISTOPHER VIGIL yesterday to eight years imprisonment and five years of supervised release for possession of two firearms in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, namely possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

This case is the product of a joint investigation by the Chico Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Samuel Wong, who prosecuted the case, in sentencing VIGIL to eight years imprisonment, Judge Shubb enhanced VIGIL's sentence for an additional three years beyond the normal five year sentence for the firearms violation due to VIGIL's long criminal history and his past history of reckless flight from law enforcement. In this case, immediately prior to his arrest, VIGIL drove his vehicle at approximately 80-90 miles per hour through Chico and crashed his vehicle into the Tri-County Appliance building located at 1048 West 9th Street in Chico. During the collision, a natural gas main attached to the building was ruptured and the entire building was destroyed by fire.

Judge Shubb also ordered that VIGIL forfeit one of the firearms to the United States and the other firearm, which was stolen, be returned to its rightful owner.

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